

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner's Action of December 2, 2005, has been received and reviewed by counsel for Assignee. In that Action claims 1-25 were presented for examination. Objection was made to the drawings and specification for enumerated issues. Claims 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as lacking antecedent basis. All claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,944,169, naming common inventors.

By this response counsel has introduced a missing reference numeral into page 6 to obviate the objection to the drawings. Counsel has amended page 13, line 5, of the application to delete "matter" and replace it with "manner."

The preamble of claims 3 and 4 has been amended to delete the reference to "router" and thereby overcome the rejection based upon antecedent basis.

With regard to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) or § 103 as unpatentable over *Yoshizawa et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 6,944,169, counsel has amended the specification to claim priority from that application for this application as a continuation-in-part. Of the three inventors for this application, two are the same individuals named as inventors in the '169 patent. The Assignee of the '169 patent is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Assignee of this pending application, 09/925,182.

Given this new claim of priority, and the Examiner's assertion that the claims presented for examination herein are disclosed in the former application of the same inventors, counsel believes the claim of priority will overcome the Section 102 and 103 rejections.

In view of the foregoing, counsel for Assignee believes all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at 650-324-6303 (direct).

Respectfully submitted,



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Appln. No. 09/925,182
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PATENT

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